



Senator Fred Lund

Vote NO on HB 2362

The impacts of this far-reaching measure have not been well-vetted and understood, but the potential for negative consequences is significant.

OAHHS opposes HB 2362, which would:

- Make it harder for hospitals and independent providers to build partnerships to benefit patients.
- Diminish patient access to care.
- Add a duplicative and unnecessary administrative process that will result in added cost to health care.

Oregon is Different

There is no evidence that affiliations and partnerships are increasing the cost of health care in Oregon.

In Oregon, 94% of hospitals are not for profit. A full 26% of hospitals in our state are independent. Nearly a quarter (23%) of hospitals operate in Oregon only. There are 16 different systems operating statewide.

Competition is strong in our state's population centers. Partnerships in rural and coastal communities (Newport, Lincoln City, Ashland, Silverton, Prineville, Redmond) maintained access to services that would have otherwise been lost. Unlike many other states, Oregon has avoided losing any rural hospitals to closure.

There is no urgency to pass this legislation, since the negative outcomes the proponents are concerned about have not occurred in Oregon.

While the broader health care community in Oregon focuses on lowering the cost of health care through the Total Cost of Care Benchmark, this bill adds additional costs. Intentionally adding costs to hospitals does not align with the work of the committee or our collective goals to best serve Oregonians.



HB 2362 is Not Ready

We continue to have significant concerns about the impact of the bill on health care system operations, the delivery of care and quality of care for Oregon patients, and the costs this will add to the health care system.

While discussions have resulted in some changes to add clarity to certain sections, key terms remain undefined and confusion around implementation remains.

As the Legislature continues to deliberate, we feel an obligation to express to you in the strongest possible way that this bill is not ready.

We urge your NO Vote on HB 2362

Oregon  Association
of Hospitals and Health Systems

oahhs.org